

REMARKS

Independent claims 16 and 23 have been amended by limitation. The scope of protection has been limited to “user-entered” messages. Similar amendments have been introduced where necessary in the dependent claims.

U.S. Patent No. 6,668,049 to Koch discloses a method and a telecommunications system for redirecting telephone calls to an intended recipient in a situation when the intended recipient cannot take the call at the number originally called by the calling party. In Koch’s solution, the communication center displays a message that a calling party (identified in this message) is attempting to call the phone number associated with the communication center. The communication center is equipped with a user interface that displays the message and also provides options how to handle the incoming call. The only similarity between Koch’s solution and the present invention is that a message is displayed on a user interface, but the substantial details are completely different. The messages displayed in Koch’s disclosure are generated by a network infrastructure (namely Service Control Point SCP) and are based on a signaling protocol and therefore are limited to situations managed by said signaling protocol. Koch’s messages are “machine-generated” and addressed to the operator of the communication center. In the present invention, the messages are created and entered by the “user”, and their purpose is communication between people, which means that they are not in any way predefined in any protocol or database.

Thorough analysis of Koch’s disclosure shows that Koch fails to disclose message delivery means for delivering *user-entered messages*. In consequence, the invention as defined in the independent claims is new.

Koch does not provide any suggestion that would lead one skilled in the art to the solution as defined in the present invention. Koch is not concerned at all with the user-created messages as his solution solves a completely different problem. Koch provides a solution related to effective call redirection, whereas the present invention provides a solution that allows reception of user-created messages (e.g., SMS messages) by recipients not having mobile phones. It is extremely unlikely that a person skilled in the art faced with a problem of how to deliver an SMS message to a PSTN phone would search for a solution of the problem among solutions related to phone call redirection. As a support of this analysis, it is worth noting that the only source, disclosed by Koch, of messages being delivered to the communication center is network infrastructure and not mobile telephones, fixed telephones, computers, personal assistants (PDA), dTVs and various other media and devices. Koch is very specific and the network management messages are sent by the network management infrastructure (e.g., SCP).

The Examiner suggests that Koch discloses that “*the message source and the recipient device can be mobile telephones, fixed telephones, computers, personal assistants (PDA), dTVs and various other media and devices*”. Thorough analysis of Koch, however, shows that neither of these is disclosed or suggested by Koch. Therefore, the applicant believes that there is no suggestion that the messages to be delivered to the communication center could be sent from a device other than being part of the network infrastructure. In consequence, the applicant believes that the independent claims are not obvious in view of what is disclosed by Koch.

As the independent claims are new and non-obvious, the claims that depend upon them are also new and non-obvious.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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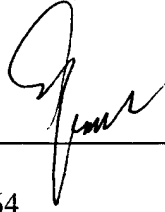
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Israel', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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